

# Samuel Lee Jackson

Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

🌐 SamuelLeeJackson.co.uk

✉ contact@samuelleejackson.co.uk

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

---

I am a post-doctoral research associate with an interest in the study of small solar system bodies (comets and asteroids). I focus largely on developing software to characterise asteroids from observations with ground and space-based telescopes, and I have experience in the operation, management and development of astronomical observatories. In my spare time I play cricket and regularly travel around the country to watch Southend United Football Club.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

---

### The Open University

*Post-Doctoral Research Associate*

**Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire**

*2023 - Current*

Developing techniques to characterise the nature of the surfaces of asteroids from thermal-infrared telescope observations. Achieved through thermal modelling of the target bodies and comparison to observations to derive physical properties.

### University of Edinburgh

*Post-Doctoral Research Associate (Part-Time)*

**Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire (Remote)**

*2022 - 2023*

Researching the aftermath of the NASA DART impact into an asteroid using observations with a portable telescope in Kenya. As part of this role I have also been involved in providing ground work for a future permanent optical telescope in Kenya, which will be the first of its kind in the country.

### The Open University & University of Edinburgh

*Night Duty Astronomer/Emergency Support Astronomer*

**Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire**

*2019 - 2022 (Multiple Contracts)*

Responsible for ensuring safe operation of the OpenScience Observatories during student use for multiple universities. Provided on-call emergency support to allow round-the-clock access to the observatories for the students, resolving hardware and software issues in a timely manner.

### The Open University

*Course Facilitator*

**Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire**

*February - March 2020*

Facilitating discussion and providing expert comment for thousands of students on the Massive Open Online Course 'In the night sky: Orion' on FutureLearn.

### Adams Joinery Ltd.

*Dispatch & Quality Control*

**Leigh-on-Sea, Essex**

*July-September 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018*

## EDUCATION

---

### PhD in Astronomy & Planetary Science

*The Open University, Milton Keynes*

*2019 - 2023*

### Astronomy, Space Science, and Astrophysics MPhys (First Class Honours)

*University of Kent, Canterbury*

*2015 - 2019*

### GCSE & A-Level Education

## KEY SKILLS

---

### Computing skills:

- Programming languages: Python, C++, CUDA C/C++, MATLAB, Bash
- Operating systems: Linux, Windows

### Other skills:

- Astronomical observations
- Data analysis and statistics
- Public speaking
- Technical writing
- Working as part of collaborations of all sizes

## AWARDS AND MEMBERSHIPS

---

- Asteroid 30226 Samuelleejackson (2000 GY137) named after me for my contributions to planetary science (2023)
- Associate Member of the Division for Planetary Sciences of the American Astronomical Society (2022 - Current)
- Rotary Prize for the Faculty of Sciences, University of Kent (2019)
- Dean's Prize for the Faculty of Sciences, University of Kent (2018)
- Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society (2017 - Current)

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Peer reviewed publications:

- **Jackson, S. L.**, Kolb, U. C., & Green, S. F. (2021). Asteroid Photometry with PIRATE: Optimizations and Techniques for Small-Aperture Telescopes. *PASP*, 133, 075003
- **Jackson, S. L.**, Rozitis, B., Dover, L. R., Green, S. F., Kolb, U. C., Andrews, A. E., & Lowry, S. C. (2022). The Effect of Aspect Changes on Near-Earth Asteroid Phase Curves. *MNRAS*, 513(2), 3076

## REFERENCES

---

References/referee contact details available on request.